

Message Text

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SUBJECT: LOGGING OF AKAMINA-KISHINENA DRAINAGE AREA

REF: HOPE-JONIETZ TELCON OF MAY 16.

1. THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL GO AHEAD WITH PLANS TO LOG PORTIONS OF THE KISHINENA CREEK DRAINAGE AREA WHICH HAVE BEEN INFESTED BY MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE.

2. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE B.C. PRESS RELEASE (COPY BEING SENT TO CONGEN) IS AS FOLLOWS: THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY AND THE MINISTER OF RECREATION AND CONSERVATION JOINTLY ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR MINISTRIES HAVE AGREED TO PROCEED WITH THE MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT OF 56,000 ACRES IN SOUTH WEST B.C. THE AREA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED INTO TWO ZONES. ZONE A CONTAINS 17,000 ACRES AND ADJOINS WATERTON AND GLACIER PARKS. IT WILL RECEIVE INTENSIVE SPECIAL PLANNING ATTENTION. TIMBER ZONE B HAS BEEN INFESTED BY MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE AND WILL REQUIRE LOGGING OF 1900 ACRES. USE OF THE AREA HAS BEEN UNDER REVIEW BY THE ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE (ELUC) BECAUSE OF CONCERN EXPRESSED BY PARKS CANADA AND U.S. PARKS OFFICIALS. THE COMMITTEE CONCLUDED THAT LIMITED HARVESTING COULD COMMENCE. THE ELUC HAS DIRECTED REGIONAL RESOURCE MANAGERS TO

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PROCEED WITH RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING TO PROTECT THE WILDLIFE AND RECREATIONAL VALUES OF THE AREA. THIS PLANNING IS TO BE BASED ON THE COORDINATED LAND USE PLAN PREPARED BY AN INTERMINISTRY GROUP LAST YEAR. TO FURTHER ASSURE THAT ZONE A IS PROTECTED, THE ELUC WILL REVIEW ALL PLANS FOR THE HEADWATERS OF AKAMINA CREEK, STARVATION CREEK AND NORTH KINTLA CREEK DRAINAGES.

3. ACCORDING TO ERIC CARLSON OF THE PROVINCIAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, THE BOUNDARIES OF ZONE A ARE AS FOLLOWS:
FROM 49 DEGREE N 114 DEGREE 19 MINUTES WEST ALONG HEIGHT OF LAND TO KING EDWARD PEAK, THENCE ALONG KISHINENA RIDGE TO ABOUT 114 DEGREE 12 MINUTES WEST. IT THEN SPLITS THE STARVATION CREEK AND GRIZZLY CREEK AND NORTH KINTLA CREEK DRAINAGES TO A POINT EAST OF ASHMAN LAKE AT APPROXIMATELY 114 DEGREE 08 MINUTES WEST 49 DEGREE 02 MINUTES. IT THEN FOLLOWS THE HEIGHT OF LAND NORTH WEST TO 114 DEGREE 10 MINUTES WEST 49 DEGREE 04 MINUTES NORTH. IT THEN RUNS NORTHEAST TO THE ALBERTA BORDER. IT ENCLOSES THE STARVATION CREEK, NORTH KINTLA CREEK AND THE HEADWATERS OF AKAMINA CREEK. THIS AREA WILL NOT BE LOGGED.

4. LOGGING WILL OCCUR IN ZONE B. LOGGING IS TO BE IN SMALL PATCHES IN THE KISHINENA, BEAVERTAIL, AND GRIZZLY DRAINAGE AREAS. A ROAD WILL BE BUILT ALONG KISHINENA CREEK WITH SOME CONSTRUCTION POSSIBLE THIS SUMMER AND LOGGING THIS WINTER AND NEXT SUMMER.

5. A LETTER WAS SENT BY THE B.C. OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS LAST WEEK TO ANN PARK OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, PROPOSING A MEETING IN VICTORIA FOR A "COMPLETE BRIEFING" OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.
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